

A
L E T T E R

T O

Doct^r P I T T,

An eminent

Phy^sician at OXFORD.

By a YOUNG LADY of OXFORD; Author
of several other Celebrated Pieces.

H Jones (m.)
L O N D O N,

Printed for M. COOPER, at the *Globe* in *Pater-noster Row*.

[Price Six-pence.]

LETTER

Doctor PITT

Physician



Mrs. YOUNG LADY of Oxford

LONDON
Printed by M. Cooper, at the Globe in Pall-mall
Price six-pence

TO THE
R E A D E R.

THE following Letter was wrote some Time ago, and has since been handed about in Manuscript, and universally esteem'd; besides which, it had the desired Effect upon the Doctor, and induc'd him to remove the Complaint. The Young Lady by whom it was wrote, has at different Times oblig'd the learned World with Specimens of her Genius, tho' her Modesty has thus far prevented her from putting her Name to her Performances:----To Her, amongst many other Things, we are indebted for that excellent Pastoral call'd *The Lass of the Hill*, tho' she did not at first own it; but 'tis hop'd she may sometime be induc'd to collect her Productions into a Volume and receive her merited Reward.

(5)

A
L E T T E R

FROM A

Young L A D Y

T O

Doctor P I T T of *Oxford.*

AS the Use of Mounds and Fences
have in all Ages obtained Esteem,
as well for the securing the Pro-
perty, as for the Safety, Ornament, and
Defence of the Proprietor, I take the Li-
berty to address You, not as a Mechanick
or

or Lawyer, but in your proper Character as an eminent Physician, upon the manifest Infirmary of your Palliades.

You must undoubtedly have observ'd, in your Perambulations to the little Edifice at the Bottom of your Garden, that they have for some Time been in a declining, cachetick State; that there is a manifest Decay in the circulating Fluids; and that the Solids have lost their Tone and Elasticity.

But as You yourself are totally emers'd in the Contemplation of nobler Subjects, it could not be expected that this flatter'd Ruin should claim much of your Attention; and therefore Mrs. PITT has sometimes assay'd the Medical Art in the Support of the tottering Building.

Her

Her Practice was chiefly some Woods, with great Quantities of Steel, and other Astringents, which she frequently administered with her own Hands. But as her Remedies were somewhat violent, and at the best but topical and palliative, they only tore and shattered the weaker and more contiguous Fibres, and by plaistering and patching up the unsound Places for a while, precipitated the Ruin of the whole; as Searcloths on the Back of a weakly Person seem to strengthen one Part while they debilitate all the rest. However she did what she could on so frail a Subject; but having at first mistaken the CASE, and seeing your Unwillingness to be called in, 'tis no Wonder if she miss'd of a CURE.

In

In the mean Time, several eminent Persons who have looked on the infirm and deplorable State of the Frontispiece, have considered it in different Lights; some imputing it to a *total Decay of radical MOISTURE*; others to the *Manifest Defects of the STAMINA*; others again, to the *violent Shocks and Concussions of the neighbouring BODIES*; but the more Judicious to W O R M S.

I am sensible that a Ruin has a good Effect in a Prospect, and I would by no Means have your Gardens defective of Ornament; but you have already on the South Side a Malt-House *magnificently* shattered;-----on the North, a Barn or Hovel, in its *last Perfection*;-----besides *Dragon's Kennel* in the Western View;----

so that you can want no Decoration of this Sort ; and indeed can have no Pretence for not making a General Discharge of the Morbid Matter, and thoroughly purging and exonerating the whole System.

If you was to have a Consultation of the whole Faculty, I am persuaded they would be of this Opinion ; and I am sure * FREWIN, (if he was call'd in) would approve of the Practice, as entirely consistent with his Doctrine of Evacuations.

It is not indeed for me to direct a Physician of your Character, in the minutest Point of your Art ; and I should have been entirely silent on this Head,

* A celebrated Physician.

B

if

if I was not myself a Sufferer in the Calamitous Scene: Having long since satisfi'd my Ears and Eyes with hearing and seeing in Publick, I would gladly pass the rest of my Days in Silence and Obscurity. But those horrid Breaches and Chasms in your Partition Fence, expose me to all the World.

Many a Man of Note, who has been call'd on hasty Errands to the Bottom of your Garden, have stopp'd short to contemplate me in my mechanical Operations: Sometimes I have been surpriz'd with a Paddle, or other Instrument of Husbandry; generally in some ignoble Occupation, and always in Disgrace. 'Tis true these horrid Chasms in return naturally enlarge my Views, and discover

discover to me Objects worthy the Observation of a Philosopher.-----So

The Soul's dark Cottage, tatter'd and decay'd,
Lets in new Light thro' Chinks which Time has made.

I say through the Gaps and Breaches of this corruptible Fabrick, I've seen you, Sir, busy'd in the Contemplation of the Beauties of Nature, and Mrs. PITT in those of Art; but then it must be sufficiently mortifying to be seen myself in (the worst Light our Sex can be seen) an Undress. However, seeing you were regardless of these Disasters, and that you chose to be under no Restraint or Bounds, and was for having all Things in common; in short, finding there were little Hopes from the Physician, I one Day apply'd myself to Mr. GLASS, whom every one knows to

be a Gentleman of a fair Character, and well skill'd Chirurgical Operations. I shew'd him the Fractures, Dislocations, &c. here a rotten Member, there a Limb quite lopp'd off, and the whole tending to a Mortification and Putrefaction, but indeed to very little Purpose ; he likewise was for repeating the Palliatives, for bracing up and corroborating the weaker Parts ; and in short, what with Plaistering, Trepanning, &c. he put me out of all Patience. I left him with some Indignation (as well knowing the Surgeon is always in Fee with the Physician) and resolv'd from that Moment to apply myself to You, from whom only I can expect a Cure, and that too by total Excision.

And now in this miserable Situation,
 Good Doctor, behold your Ramparts !
 naturally

naturally of a thin scurvy Aspect, attended with a constant Looseness, Tremulation and Sinking; and now in an advanced Age, subject to violent Paroxysms, and even Epilepsies in a North-Easterly Wind; and by inclement Seasons and length of Time, reduc'd to the last Stages of an Atrophy. And will you thus suffer the Ornament and Defence of your Person and House to sink to Ruin, and not stretch out your healing Hand to build it up again? How will HUGHES * and MANATON * triumph when they see your Hedge broken down, and all they that go by pluck off your Grapes!

You have before, Sir, often had to do with rotten Subjects, and have render'd them quite sound and healthy again:

* Two Gentlemen of the Faculty residing in *Oxford*.

Exert

Exert your Skill once more in Support of this miserable, sinking Frame, and if possible restore it to it's original Strength and Beauty. But if it be too far gone, and (as I fear) absolutely out of the Power of Physick ; nothing remains but that You convince the World of your Lyre, and like a true Son of APOLLO, make the Stones dance into a Wall, as a standing Monument of your Fame, to all future Ages.

I remain,

With the greatest Deference,

Your most Obedient,

Humble Servant,

MARY JONES.

P O S T S C R I P T.

THERE has lately appeared a little swelling Tumour or Protuberance (call'd by the Italians, *Terracia*) of a livid Colour, and quite schirrous, upon the Extremity at the Bottom of the Garden, which is extremely offensive to me; in that the Spectator has from thence a full View of that Temple of Ours, dedicated to the Goddess *Cloacina*. But as Mr. GLASS has brought it into a State of Maturation, I hope you'll take proper Methods to discuss it, because I would by no Means have the Mysteries of that Goddess expos'd.

F I N I S.

T O S T A C R A P T

THERE has lately appeared a little
twisting Tannor or Frobenius
(called by the Italians, *livvina*) of a lively
Colour, and quite ichthyous, upon the ex-
tremity of the bottom of the garden,
which is extremely offensive to me; in
that the Spogator has been observed
View of that Tannor of Ours, dedicated to
the Goddess of Love, Mrs. Glass
has brought it into a State of Mani-
ration, I hope you'll take proper Methods
to dilute it, because I would by no Means
have the Myrtles of that Goddess exposed.

28 MR 59

F I N I S

